

**JOINT
GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
AND
GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSION
ADVISORY TASK FORCE
MEETING SUMMARY
March 20, 2002**

**Prepared by:
Department of Natural Resources**

Office of Conservation

Ground Water Management Staff

SUMMARY

Call to Order

Commission members in attendance:

Karen Gautreaux, Chairman, Governor's Office

Phil Boudreaux, Commissioner of Conservation, Department of Natural Resources

Zahir "Bo" Bolourchi, Department of Transportation and Development

William "Bill" Cefalu, Police Jury Association

Richard Durrett, Sparta Groundwater Conservation District

Peggy Gantt, Louisiana Municipal Association

Steve Chustz, Department of Environmental Quality

Brad Spicer, Department of Agriculture & Forestry

Benny Fontenot, Department of Wildlife & Fisheries

Linda Zaunbrecher, Farm Bureau Member

Len Bahr, Governor's Office of Coastal Affairs

Dean Lowe for Jimmy Guidry, Department of Health and Hospitals

Advisory Task Force Appointees in attendance:

Jess Barr, Cotton Producers Association

Herschel Bourque, Louisiana Ground Water Association

Timothy Duex, University of Louisiana at Lafayette – Geology Department

Henry Graham, Jr., Louisiana Chemical Association

Brad Hanson, Louisiana Geological Survey

Robert Jackson, New Orleans Sewerage & Water Board

Darwin Knochenmus, Capital Area Ground Water Conservation District

Steve Levine, Association of Public Utilities

Paul "Jackie" Loewer, Jr., Louisiana Rice Growers Association

Frank Lyon, Louisiana Independent Oil & Gas Association

Kyle McCann, Louisiana Farm Bureau

Olevia McDonald, Sparta Ground Water Conservation District

Jeffrey A. Nunn, L.S.U. – Baton Rouge, Department of Geology

Eugene H. Owen, Municipal Water Association

Bradley E. Spicer, Department of Agriculture & Forestry, Soil & Water Conservation

Charles W. Stahr, Louisiana Pulp & Paper Association

C.A. "Buck" Vandersteen, Louisiana Forestry Commission

Linda M. Walker, League of Women Voters – New Orleans

Ground Water Management Staff Report

Mr. Duplechin, Chief of Staff, read into the record the number of Water Well Information Sheets received since the last Commission meeting (26) and the number of just causes waivers rendered (2) since the last Commission meeting. The staff has collected a total of 279 Water Well Information Sheets. A number of information sheets were sent to the staff that did not have the proper 60-day notice or did the owner request a just cause variance. Six forms were received after installation but these were monitoring and recovery wells

Mr. Duplechin reported that the Staff is currently looking at reworking the link pathways to the Commission's Web Site.

During the month, members of the staff attended several meetings around the state. The meetings included the Louisiana Police Jury Association in Monroe where Mr. Duplechin was invited to speak about Act 446.

Other meetings attended by staff members included a joint meeting of the Public Supply and Economic subcommittees. In addition, staff members also attended the Outreach and Technical subcommittee meetings.

The press release was released and is posted on the web site.

The staff completed the fiscal and economic impact statements and delivered it to the fiscal office.

Consultants Report

As per the scope of work for Part 1 of the Comprehensive Water Management Plan for the State of Louisiana the first deliverable is a quarterly presentation by the consultant on the progress made thus far on the report.

Fenstermaker then gave its oral presentation.

Ground Water Management Advisory Task Force Committee Reports

Four subcommittee reports were given during the meeting.

Mr. Eugene Owen, Chairman of the Economic and Public Supply subcommittees, gave a joint report. The two subcommittees held a joint meeting on March 5, 2002 for the purpose of exploring alternative groundwater management policies. The subcommittee recommended a

feasibility analysis of the cost, usage, and economic feasibility of transferring the groundwater use by industry in the Baton Rouge area to a surface use.

Commissioner Cefalu had a couple of questions about the report. Commissioner Gautreaux asked the staff to distribute copies of the report to the Commissioners and Task Force members.

Mr. Henry Graham, of the Industrial subcommittee, summarized the partial results of a survey sent to chemical and refining industries by the Industrial Committee. The chemical and petrochemical companies primary use is for cooling purposes.

Commissioner Cefalu had several questions about the report and budget for the studies the Commission may want to do. Commissioner Gautreaux, Mr. Owen, and Mr. Darling discussed possible budget options.

The Outreach Committee presented the final short and long term goals to the Commission and recommended that the web sites, press releases, and a preference feasibility analysis be started as soon as possible.

Commissioner Cefalu had several questions about the report.

John Lovelace, of the Technical subcommittee, presented his report and stated that the subcommittee listened to a presentation from the consultant with the purpose of reviewing and making suggestions to the consultants if necessary. The subcommittee thought the consultant did a thorough job.

OLD BUSINESS

Registration of Domestic and Replacement Wells

A vote to exclude domestic and replacement wells from the list of those expected to submit information to the Office of Conservation, was taken at the last meeting; however, since the agenda was not clear that the vote would be taken it was decided to take a confirmation vote. All Commissioners present voted in favor of the motion.

Emergency Rules

The current Emergency Rule will expire on March 28th. The staff recommended that the Commission vote to extend the Emergency Rule pending the approval of the permanent rule. The vote was taken and the motion approved.

Proposed Permanent Rule

Mr. Duplechin reviewed the procedure for adopting a permanent rule. A vote was taken to submit the proposed rule as a Notice of Intent in the *Louisiana Register* and the motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SCHEDULE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, May 15, 2002 at 1:30 p.m.